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HOUSE BILL 429

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

INTRODUCED BY

Sheryl Williams Stapleton

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; PROVIDING FOR A PROCEDURE WHEREBY
CERTAIN GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS ARE MET BY CAREER TECHNICAL
EDUCATION COURSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 22-13-1.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986,
Chapter 33, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-13-1.1. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.--

A. At the end of the eighth grade or during the
ninth grade, each student shall prepare an individual program
of study for grades nine through twelve. The program of study
shall be signed by a student's parent.

B. Successful completion of a minimum of twenty-
three units aligned to the state academic content and
performance standards shall be required for graduation. These

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1 units shall be as follows:

2 (1) four units in English, with major emphasis
3 on grammar and literature;

4 (2) three units in mathematics, at least one
5 of which is equivalent to the algebra 1 level or higher;

6 (3) two units in science, one of which shall
7 have a laboratory component; provided, however, that with
8 students entering the ninth grade beginning in the 2005-2006
9 school year, three units in science shall be required, one of
10 which shall have a laboratory component;

11 (4) three units in social science, which shall
12 include United States history and geography, world history and
13 geography, and government and economics;

14 (5) one unit in physical education or other
15 physical activity;

16 (6) one unit in communication skills or
17 business education, with a major emphasis on writing and
18 speaking and that may include a language other than English;
19 and

20 (7) nine elective units and eight elective
21 units for students entering the ninth grade in the 2005-2006
22 school year that meet [~~state board~~] department content and
23 performance standards. Student service learning shall be
24 offered as an elective.

25 C. The department shall establish a procedure

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1 whereby students may be awarded credit for certain graduation
2 requirements through successful completion of specified career
3 technical education courses.

4 [G.] D. Final examinations shall be administered to
5 all students in all classes offered for credit.

6 [D.] E. A student shall not receive a high school
7 diploma who has not passed a state graduation examination in
8 the subject areas of reading, English, math, writing, science
9 and social science. The state graduation examination on social
10 science shall include a section on the constitution of the
11 United States and the constitution of New Mexico. If a student
12 exits from the school system at the end of grade twelve without
13 having passed a state graduation examination, he shall receive
14 an appropriate state certificate indicating the number of
15 credits earned and the grade completed. If within five years
16 after a student exits from the school system he takes and
17 passes the state graduation examination, he may receive a high
18 school diploma.

19 [E.] F. The [~~state board~~] department may establish
20 a policy to provide for administrative interpretations to
21 clarify curricular and testing provisions of the Public School
22 Code."